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Community organizer and Indigenous journalist Lenard Monkman. MARK REIMER

HEALTH

City to renters: Just sweat it out

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Tenants who sweated out last summer in hot apartments won't get a much-desired bylaw limiting how high the thermostat can rise.

Toronto's Board of Health adopted a staff report on Wednesday squashing the idea of setting a maximum temperature of 26 C for apartments and condos in the city.

Instead, it encouraged owners and developers to provide shared cool spaces.

The city's medical officer of health Dr. Eileen de Villa said staff decided against a bylaw because they worried it would have "unintended consequences," such as increasing rent. "You don't want to trade off one set of problems for another," she said.

The idea was first floated in 2015 by Coun. Mary Fragedakis, who worried about the health of people living in sweltering apartments.

Kemba Robinson, a member of tenant advocacy group ACORN, called the decision "disappointing."

Both she and her daughter are asthmatic, and her window air-conditioning unit "helps tremendously." But she said it's a luxury many tenants can't afford. "If we don't have air conditioning during the summer, we can't breathe," she said.

Toronto Public Health did consultations with both landlords and tenants before drafting the report, which said many of the city's older apartment buildings lack proper insulation and ducts and are hard to keep cool even if window air-conditioner units are installed.

More air conditioners would also mean a bigger drain on energy and a larger environmental impact, said de Villa.

MY GOD, THE HEAT

According to a survey referenced by Toronto Public Health, 61 per cent of people in apartments built between 1945 and 1984 reported having trouble sleeping and half reported feeling exhausted due to heat. That's compared to 40 per cent of condo dwellers being sleepless and 30 per cent exhausted.

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Winnipeg police arrest, charge men with killing Tina Fontaine's cousin. **Canada**

King St. paved with possibilities

City staff is ready to unveil its plan to transform King Street into a transit corridor at a community meeting on Thursday evening. Metro took a look at a draft of the recommendation, which the public can see at 6:30 p.m. at the InterContinental Toronto Centre at 225 Front St. W. **DAVID HAINS** METRO

A City of Toronto rendering of the draft recommendation for the King Street transit corridor pilot project. COURTESY CITY OF TORONTO

1 WHY A TRANSIT CORRIDOR?

King is packed with transit riders. Around 65,000 people ride the King streetcar each day, more than the Sheppard subway line or Scarborough RT. But that means there's lots of congestion — so much that it's often faster to walk.

2 NO THROUGH TRAFFIC

In order to move streetcar riders more efficiently, cars will no longer be able to turn left between Jarvis and Bathurst, and at most major streets they won't be able to drive through the intersection.

3 NOT ALL CARS

Taxis and delivery vehicles will still be able to get in to do their work in dedicated zones, highlighted in blue.

4 SAFER STOPS

Streetcar riders will no longer have to walk through a lane of traffic to hop on their ride.

5 MORE PUBLIC SPACE

If you need a place to sit, the city could also convert some on-street parking to public spaces, highlighted in green, which would give the corridor more of a community feel.

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Floods give rise to calls for better infrastructure

CLIMATE CHANGE

Access to the island has been restricted until at least June 30

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

The flooded island is a sign of the new normal in this age of global warming, and Toronto must do more to respond.

"The climate has changed. We need to figure out a way for our infrastructure to handle it," said downtown councillor Joe Cressy.

The city has restricted island access to residents and necessary personnel until at least June 30. Record-high water levels are expected to rise through June, and the city has worked with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to protect homes and infrastructure that could be at risk if another storm hits.

"Rain events are going to become more extreme," said Liat Margolis, an associate professor of landscape architecture at the University of Toronto. "Our infrastructure does not have the capacity to hold onto the rain."

It's an assessment that Joseph Desloges, a professor in the department of geography at U of T, agrees with. He said extreme weather events are becoming more common, and flooding is one of the most important symptoms of global warming.

"What is most difficult is not the temperature; it's the flooding," he told Metro.

Coun. Joe Cressy says the city must act with greater urgency to improve infrastructure to handle storm water accumulation, adding he doesn't feel current efforts are enough. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

> **Rain events are going to become more extreme. Our infrastructure does not have the capacity to hold onto the rain.** Liat Margolis

Toronto has sometimes struggled to respond to flooding. In July 2013, a sudden downpour became Ontario's costliest natural disaster ever. Around 300,000 residents were left without power, and numerous basements were soaked.

Cressy believes the city must act with more urgency. "We need to do all we can to limit the amount of storm water the city deals with."

However, he added, "I'm not sure we're investing the money we need to in order to accomplish that." The city's investment in a program to mitigate basement flooding is not enough, he said.

The city's storm water charge, implemented in hundreds of North American cities, was held up at Tuesday's executive-committee meeting. Cressy argued council must also fully fund TransformTO, the city's extensive and ambitious plan to meet climate-change targets by 2050.

But he worried that despite the need, it's difficult to fund necessary initiatives in the current political climate. "In the time of a budget freeze," he said, "there's no room."

PREPARATION

Some ways Toronto can better prepare for its next flood, according to U of T's Liat Margolis:

- Green parking lots, turning hard surfaces into ones that can absorb water
- Retrofit older buildings with green roofs
- Integrate storm-water management into the parks system, like in Corktown Common and Sherbourne Common
- Build rain gardens, where downspout extensions direct water to permeable soil
- Plant more trees

Toronto DIGEST

Councillor helps subdue unruly passenger

A Toronto city councillor helped subdue a passenger on an Air Canada flight Monday after the man allegedly tried to open a cabin door mid-flight. Michael Thompson was flying home with his mother from a Jamaican vacation when a man in business class became upset and was moved to a seat in the back of the plane, near Thompson. The man threatened to open the plane door, saying it would only take one person to take the plane down. After conferring with the flight crew, Thompson helped restrain the man with other male passengers. The pilot diverted the flight to Orlando where the man was removed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TTC deputy CEO resigns

The TTC's deputy CEO and chief customer officer is stepping down. Chris Upfold, 43, told his staff Wednesday that he was leaving voluntarily after almost exactly six years on the job.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police offer $50K for tips in shooting death

For the grieving relatives of Candice Rochelle Bobb, it has been a year without the "life of the family," without the young mother's sense of humour, without answers. Just over one year since Bobb, 33, was gunned down in north Etobicoke, police announced a reward of up to $50,000 for information leading to an arrest.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Training for new judges

LAW

Education plan mandates sex assault courses

In a first for Ontario, new judges will now be forced to take mandatory training that includes sexual assault law — but not those already on the bench.

On Wednesday, Attorney General Yasir Naqvi said Ontario Chief Justice Lise Maisonneuve deserves credit "for taking this very important step and now expressly mandating in the education plan that new judges be trained in sexual assault law and other issues, in the context of social issues."

The new "education plan ... expressly mandates new judges, when they are appointed, to get that training," which in the past it did not, Naqvi said at Queen's Park.

The courts have come under increasing pressure from victim's groups as well as MPPs at Queen's Park after a number of cases across the country where judges made questionable comments or rulings, including one who asked a sex assault victim why she didn't keep her "knees together" to prevent the assault.

But Progressive Conservative MPP Laurie Scott said the changes aren't enough because training isn't required for all judges.

"Mandatory training and mandatory sexual assault training are two different things," said Scott, her party's women's issues critic.

"The judges' continuing education plan for this coming year says only that judges are 'encouraged' to attend criminal law seminars, which include an 'option' of sexual assault training."

Last month, both Scott and Liberal MPP Cristina Martins put forward private member's bills regarding mandatory training.

Martins' private member's bill would amend the Courts of Justice Act, and provide training on sex assault law, evidence and sexual consent. Scott's bill would compel both new and current judges to undergo comprehensive sex assault law education. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WEATHER TASTE OF SUMMER Trinity Bellwoods Park was a hot spot Wednesday. Environment Canada has predicted a high nearing 30 on Thursday as well. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

Media arrests under review: Police chief

Hamilton Police Chief Eric Girt says he's reviewing the arrest of two journalists at the scene of a fatal crash in Waterdown Tuesday night.

Freelance photographer David Ritchie was charged with obstructing police and resisting arrest and Global News videographer Jeremy Cohn was arrested but released unconditionally. They were both working at the scene of a crash in Waterdown, where a 10-year-old girl was killed.

In a video viewed by The Spectator, Ritchie can be seen in the back of a cruiser, with a paramedic taking his blood pressure.

After being released, he posted on Twitter that he has "great relationships" with first responders. "This was an isolated issue and I will be seeking resolution."

Media rights group Canadian Journalists for Free Expression has expressed concern about the arrests. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jeremy Cohn was arrested Tuesday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canna Clinic joins Unifor

Workers at a medical marijuana dispensary in Toronto's east end have joined Unifor, the country's largest private-sector union.

Forty workers — including reception, production, supervisors and packaging and retail staff — at the Broadview Avenue location of Canna Clinic are now represented by the union.

Unifor says it's believed to be the first time that marijuana dispensary workers in Canada have unionized.

Marijuana dispensaries are currently illegal in Canada. Canadian patients must purchase medical marijuana directly from Health-Canada licensed producers, who ship it via mail.

The federal government has introduced legislation to legalize recreational marijuana by July 2018. Details about where the drug will be sold have yet to be determined. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Higher art for Lower Simcoe

PROJECT

Indigenous artists wanted to beautify underpass

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The bare grey walls of Lower Simcoe's underpass will soon be covered in colour with a touch of Indigenous culture.

StreetArt Toronto has put out a call, looking for Indigenous artists to help beautify and animate the pedestrian underpass between Front and Bremner. The project is part of the StreetArt Underpass Program, which commissions murals and street art to enhance and transform passageways across the city.

"This is partially about graffiti prevention in an important downtown area," said project co-ordinator Meg MacKay. She noted the painting follows the success of the Souliere's mural at the Lower Don River Trail, completed two years ago.

Applicants are expected to have completed a project of similar scale and have experience with community engagement in visual art and street design. A jury of Indigenous art professionals will work on the selection process and decide the winner among three finalists.

The final product is expected to be a permanent installation made of durable material that requires minimal maintenance.

McKay said it was important to give Indigenous artists the opportunity to work on this project in order to recognize their contributions to shaping the city as we see it today.

SUBMISSIONS

The project's budget is $95,000. StreetArt Toronto is accepting submissions until May 23. Details are available at toronto.ca/streetart.

This summer will bring a bright transformation to the Lower Simcoe underpass. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

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Eyes on the prize

OPPORTUNITY

Plan underway for award for Indigenous writers

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

When he co-founded Red Rising Magazine, Indigenous journalist and community organizer Lenard Monkman wanted to offer a platform to accurately reflect First Nations communities.

"For far too long our voices have been misappropriated and our stories have been told from a deficit point of view," he said. "We have a beautiful culture and beautiful ceremonies, but all you hear is negative stuff in the media."

So an effort underway in Toronto to create a literary award recognizing Indigenous voices was music to his ears.

Lawyer Robin Parker launched an online fundraising campaign this week with the goal of supporting upcoming Indigenous writers. It's partly a response to the ongoing debate over cultural appropriation — sparked by an editorial in Write magazine that suggested the creation of an "appropriation Prize."

In just over two days, Parker's campaign has raised more than $30,000, far beyond her initial goal of $10,000. She says she's reaching out to Indigenous organizations across the country so they can be the ones who manage the award.

"That would be extremely important in encouraging young Indigenous writers to continue to tell our own stories," said Monkman, who will moderate a panel discussion on Indigenous Voices Rising next month at the Toronto Reference Library.

Journalists for Human Rights' executive director Rachel Pulfer called the award initiative the "most positive outcome" from the appropriation controversy. The group works with Indigenous youth across Canada to support emerging journalists, and such an award is one of their priorities for the next three years.

"It's absolutely crucial that we turn the page from this conversation on a theft prize and bring it into celebrating Indigenous voices," she said, noting the group would be keen to join forces with the new campaign.

"This is a very important piece of the puzzle. Indigenous stories have been insufficiently heard and understood, and it's essential that any conversation be informed directly by their personal experiences."

Journalist and Red Rising Magazine co-founder Lenard Monkman said an award recognizing Indigenous voices would encourage more young Indigenous writers to come forward. CONTRIBUTED

DETAILS

- Several groups, including the Canadian Journalism Foundation, offer fellowships to young Indigenous writers.
- In the wake of the "Appropriation Prize" controversy, mainstream Canadian media editors have resigned or been reassigned, including Write's Hal Niedzviecki, The Walrus's Jonathan Kay and CBC National's Steve Ladurantaye. METRO

CBC news exec reassigned in wake of controversy

The managing editor of CBC's The National was reassigned Wednesday for what the public broadcaster called "an inappropriate, insensitive and frankly unacceptable tweet" he made as part of a controversial debate over cultural appropriation.

In a memo, CBC News editor-in-chief Jennifer McGuire said Steve Ladurantaye will now work on its digital "storytelling strategies" and reach out to Indigenous communities "as part of his learning process."

Last week, Ladurantaye was among journalists who engaged in a Twitter conversation sparked by a contentious magazine article advocating for more cultural appropriation in Canadian literature.

In the Writers' Union of Canada's magazine Write, novelist and then-editor Hal Niedzviecki suggested "anyone, anywhere, should be encouraged to imagine other peoples, other cultures, other identities."

The opinion piece suggested there should be an appropriation prize in literature.

Former National Post editor Ken Whyte tweeted he would "donate $500 to the founding of the appropriation prize." Ladurantaye replied that he would contribute $100. He later deleted the tweet and apologized, saying "what I did was hurtful, and my apology is without condition."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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LETTERS OF NOTE

Hello Toronto!!

I just settled back in at home after almost a week in Toronto. I am so pleased that I took the opportunity to spend Sunday to Thursday in your great city and I wanted you to give you my feedback.

My youngest daughter and her fiancé moved to Liberty Village less than a year ago and I have been curious and sometimes worried about their safety living in the big city. My oldest daughter commutes occasionally to Toronto for work and now I know what how she gets around and where she works there also. I stayed at the Westin Harbour Castle so we were able to meet up for a number of meals and walks. I got to walk High Park and Evergreen Brickworks areas and we shopped and visited Greek Town, China Town and Kensington Market just to name a few!

I was beyond impressed with the friendliness and the cleanliness of your city. The subway employees were very

friendly, as were the drivers on the electric cars. Everyone we spoke to (and we spoke to many people because we are not good at remembering directions) were so helpful. My friends and I felt safe and in very good hands.

My home province is Newfoundland but I have lived in the London area for many years. I felt safer and more welcome in Toronto in those 4 days than I ever have in the London area. The shop owners and employees were welcoming and interested in making us happy and we were happy to spend money in their shops because they were so, so nice!!

I would recommend anyone wanting to enjoy great food, sights, and friendly people in a safe city really ought to give Toronto a try! They won't be disappointed. I also think that Toronto should be held up as an awesome model of multiculturalism working at its finest!! I didn't see color or race there not even once, just other human beings making a life.

My friend introduced me to a saying and it goes something like:

Birth Place: Planet Earth

Race: Human

Religion: Kindness

What a great motto for us all to live by and Toronto you are far out ahead of us! Kudos and thanks to you all!

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Movie-loving cottagers in the 'zones'

More and more people are watching Netflix while on public transit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

ENTERTAINMENT

Website offers download areas for the holiday weekends

Netflix is giving Ontario cottage country dwellers an entertainment fix over holiday weekends this summer.

The streaming video operator says it's opening several temporary "download zones" that allow viewers to refill their mobile devices with fresh TV series and films.

It begins this weekend with a Wi-Fi hotspot at Bass Pro Shop at Vaughan Mills on Friday and the Farmers Market in Collingwood, Ont., both Saturday and Sunday.

A spokeswoman for Netflix says employees will be on-site to guide users through the steps. Streaming companies have been expanding their downloadable content as more subscribers watch entertainment while in transit.

Restrictive mobile data plans have made it costly for most Canadians to stream on the road.

Netflix began letting users download a limited selection of its TV and films last November. Other streaming video services such as Amazon Prime Video and Hoopla, which is used by some of Canada's public libraries, also make content downloadable onto phones and tablets.

Netflix says it will operate "download zones" at various Ontario cottage country locations on every holiday weekend until Labour Day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- AURORA NORTH SMARTCENTRE - 15, First Commerce Drive, Aurora, 905-841-0427
- OSHAWA SOUTH SMARTCENTRE - 560, Laval Drive, Oshawa, 905-728-4654
- HARMONY CENTRE - 1397, Harmony Road North, Oshawa, 905-429-2066
- TRINITY COMMON MALL - 40, Great Lakes Drive, Brampton, 905-458-5336
- TORONTO PREMIUM OUTLETS - 13 850, Steeles Ave. West, Halton Hills, 905-864-0810
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- THE CENTRE ON BARTON - 1223, Barton Street East, Hamilton, 905-545-1815
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POLICE JOSEPH MATTHEWS WINS OFFICER OF THE YEAR
In the frantic moments after bullets flew inside Muzik nightclub, a man with blood soaking his shirt stumbled into a cab. Staff. Sgt. Joseph Matthews stopped near the club. After the call came over the radio, he was near where the shooting took place. "You kinda knew that he wasn't a threat, he was just a victim looking for help," Matthews said. For his actions that day — including administering first aid amid a scared crowd — Matthews, now a detective sergeant, was named the 2016 Police Officer of the Year on Tuesday.

TEXT: TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE. PHOTO: TORONTO POLICE

WILDLIFE

Funds raised to save muskrat to pay for its autopsy instead

An Ontario wildlife rescue centre that collected donations for an extensively injured muskrat says the animal has died but some of the funds raised will pay for an autopsy for the rodent.

Soper Creek Wildlife Rescue founder Stefanie MacEwan says the muskrat, that staff dubbed George, was brought to them on Monday night by a woman who said she found the animal in a diaper box in a creek while fishing in Port Hope, Ont.

MacEwan says both sides of George's mouth had been cut, his teeth were broken and he had injuries to his left eye.

MacEwan says Port Hope police are investigating the matter. She says rescue centre staff treated the muskrat for its pain and took the animal to a veterinarian on Tuesday, but learned Wednesday morning that George had died during the night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A muskrat is treated at an Ontario wildlife rescue.
SOPER CREEK WILDLIFE RESCUE

Toronto bike sharing company Dropbike will launch later this summer. CONTRIBUTED

Peddling peace in TO

TRANSPORT

Bike Share rival Dropbike keen to work with the city

David Hains
Metro | Toronto

A brightly coloured rival to Bike Share Toronto says they come in peace.

"This is not the Uber approach," Dropbike co-CEO Qiming Weng told Metro, distancing themselves from that company's ask-for-forgiveness-not-permission approach. "We are absolutely dedicated to working with the city."

Dropbike was spotted in the city earlier this week as the company tested its bikes downtown.

The funded startup plans to launch later this summer in a partnership with the University of Toronto Students Union.

Unlike Bike Share Toronto, Dropbike will not have large docks. This helps reduce costs, Weng explained, as in conventional bike-share setups "most of the cost comes from the dock itself."

With the new service, bikes live in virtual "havens" in public spaces. Cyclists will find their ride via an app and scan its QR code to get the combination for the lock. Dropbike says the price will start at $1 per hour.

Compare that to $90 for an annual membership with Bike Share, which also requires riders to dock their bikes every 30 minutes.

Failure to do so kicks in additional fees. Bike Share also offers day passes for $7.

> **This is not the Uber approach.**
> Qiming Weng

Bike Share Toronto is owned by the city's Parking Authority, and the company currently has 2,000 bikes at 200 stations. Most are in the downtown core, with stations as far east as the Danforth and as far west as Dundas W.

IN BRIEF

Bay Street reopens after Four Seasons' glass incident

Bay Street reopened to vehicles and pedestrians after glass fell from the Four Seasons hotel Tuesday night.

The glass fell from the building, on Bay between Yorkville Ave. and Scollard St., around 10:30 p.m.

There were no reported injuries.

"We have to do more," Mayor John Tory told reporters at City hall Wednesday morning. "This is the fourth time, I'm informed, that glass has fallen off this particular building

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FAIR

No free CNE entry for disabled, starting 2018

People with disabilities will not get free entry to the Canadian National Exhibition starting next year, the fair's board of directors decided Wednesday as it accepted recommendations to improve accessibility.

The recommendation was one of six submitted by the CNE Advisory Council on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, which focused on ways to improve accessibility at the fair.

"Any organization needs time to evolve their culture to become more inclusive so what we've recommended to the CNE are a number of steps that will help the culture of the organization evolve to be more inclusive of people with disabilities," said Bob Stark, who chaired the committee and is a disability advocate and former CEO of ServiceOntario.

The independent advisory council was made up of volunteers from diverse backgrounds, including experts and some people with disabilities themselves, and was created last year.

"The CNE is announcing a range of new accessibility and inclusivity initiatives that reflect best practices across our city and province," said Virginia Ludy, CNE CEO in a press release.

"We thank the Advisory Council for their recommendations. With their support we will position the CNE as a leader in accessibility and inclusivity."

After rigorous debate and consulting with experts and the public, Stark said, the committee "arrived at a place where the entire group had consensus on the recommendations that went forward."

Though Stark said the committee acknowledged there are people with disabilities who may not be able to afford admission, he said the majority are able to pay full fare. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Refugee reforms score a failing grade

IMMIGRATION

Asylum claims, deportations not done in set time frames

An RCMP officer helps asylum seekers cross the border from New York in March in Hemmingford, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Five years after Ottawa rolled out controversial reforms to build a "faster and fairer" asylum system, also meant to boot out failed refugees quickly, the verdict is in.

Despite the highly touted changes made by the former Conservative government in 2012, the revamped refugee system has failed to hear claims within tight statutory processing timelines or get rid of the backlog, reports a new study released by the Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies.

"The aim of the Balanced Refugee Reform Act and the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act was to make the system faster, fairer and more cost effective," said Ryerson University criminology professor Idil Atak, who co-wrote the review with colleague Graham Hudson at Ryerson and University of Ottawa professor Delphine Nakache. "But the new system is not faster. It is not fairer. It is not more cost-effective."

For most asylum claimants, refugee hearings are supposed to be held no later than 60 days after the claim is referred to the Immigration and Refugee Board, while those from the government-designated list of "safe" countries will be heard as quickly as within 30 days.

Despite the drop in the volume of asylum claims by half over the course of one year, from 20,427 in 2012 to 10,322 in 2013, only 55 per cent of the safe-country claims met the 30-day target, compared to seven out of 10 claims from non-safe countries.

According to the refugee board, 30 per cent of asylum hearings had to be rescheduled in 2015, mostly due to lack of time. One-third of the appeals at the refugee appeals tribunal also failed to deliver a decision within the 90-day limit; on average, appeals cases were finalized 44 days beyond the target.

The study found only one-third of failed claimants were removed from Canada within the statutory 12 months due to many obstacles. These include lack of co-operation by the home country, inability to locate the individuals and the person's fitness to travel.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WINNIPEG

Charges laid in killing of Fontaine's cousin

Jeanenne Chantel Fontaine
CONTRIBUTED

Police have charged three men in the killing of a cousin of Tina Fontaine, a teenager whose death fuelled calls for a national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women.

Police in Winnipeg say Jeanenne Chantel Fontaine, 29, was shot in March before the home she was in was set on fire.

She was later taken off life-support.

Const. Jay Murray said police believe the suspects went to the home looking for a man over a methamphetamine deal. Fontaine was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"She was not the intended victim in this matter," Murray said at a news conference Wednesday.

"These individuals came to the house looking for someone else. I want to make that clear."

Malcolm Miles Mitchell is charged with second-degree murder and arson.

Jason Michael Meilleur is charged with manslaughter and Christopher Mathew Brass faces counts of manslaughter and arson.

Brass is also charged with second-degree murder in the death of a man who was shot in February.

The body of 15-year-old Tina Fontaine was discovered wrapped in a bag in the Red River in August 2014, eight days after she was reported missing.

Her death sparked a nationwide outcry, which helped lead to an inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women.

Raymond Cormier, 54, has been charged with second-degree murder in her death.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Special counsel appointed

POLITICS

President faces heightened pressure

In this Sept. 4, 2013, photo, then-incoming FBI Director James Comey talks with outgoing FBI Director Robert Mueller before Comey was officially sworn in at the Justice Department in Washington. On Wednesday, the Justice Department said is appointing Mueller as special counsel to oversee the investigation into Russian interference in the election. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Besieged from all sides, the Trump administration appointed former FBI director Robert Mueller Friday evening as a special counsel to oversee the federal investigation into allegations Russia and Donald Trump's campaign collaborated to influence the 2016 presidential election.

The appointment came as Democrats insisted ever more loudly that someone outside Trump's Justice Department must handle the politically charged investigation. An increasing number of Republicans, too, have joined in calling for Congress to dig deeper, especially after Trump fired FBI director James Comey who had been leading the bureau's probe.

Earlier Wednesday, Trump complained in a commencement address that "no politician in history" has been treated worse by his foes, even as exasperated fellow Republicans slowly joined the clamour for a significant investigation into whether he tried to quash the FBI's probe.

Three congressional committees, all led by Republicans, confirmed they wanted to hear from Comey, whose notes about a February meeting with the president indicate Trump urged him to drop the bureau's investigation of fired National Security adviser Michael Flynn. Congressional investigators are seeking Comey's memos, as well as documents from the Justice Department related to the firing.

Many Democrats also were calling for an independent special counsel, or prosecutor.

The political storm, coupled with the still-potent fallout from Trump's recent disclosure of classified information to Russian diplomats, overshadowed all else in the capital and beyond.

Republicans, frustrated by the president's parade of problems, sought to cool the heated climate with assurances they would get to the bottom of scandals.

Unimpressed, Rep. Elijah Cummings, top Democrat on a key House oversight panel, said, "Speaker Ryan has shown he has zero, zero, zero appetite for any investigation of Donald Trump." He accused the Republicans of taking great pains to "do as little as humanly possible, just to claim that they're doing something."

Interest was hardly limited to the U.S. No less a commentator than Russia's Vladimir Putin called the dramatic charges swirling around Trump evidence of "political schizophrenia spreading in the U.S." He offered to furnish a "record" of the Trump-diplomats meeting in the Oval Office if the White House desired it. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARKETS

The growing political drama in Washington rattled Wall Street Wednesday, knocking the Dow Jones industrial average down more than 370 points and giving the stock market its biggest single-day slump in eight months. Investors worried that the political turmoil that has enveloped the White House may hinder President Donald Trump's plans to cut taxes, roll back government regulations and other aspects of his pro-business agenda.

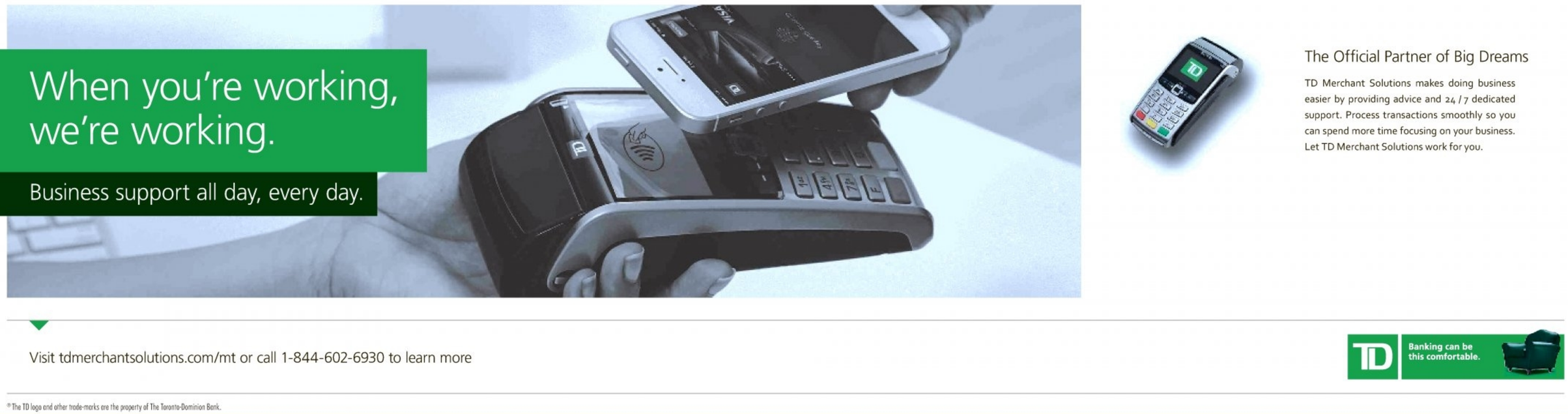
AIR TRAVEL

Talks end with no laptop ban

Talks on a proposed U.S. ban on laptops and tablets in flights from Europe ended Wednesday with no ban — and a promise of more talks and better intelligence sharing.

For days now, European Union officials have been hoping for details on the threat that prompted the proposed ban — the same details that U.S. President Donald Trump discussed with Russian diplomats at the White House last week. The airline industry came out against the proposal in a strongly worded letter that said it would cause a severe downturn in trans-Atlantic air travel and cost travelers more than a billion dollars in lost time.

On Wednesday, in a secure room in Brussels, officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the European Union swapped information about threats involving air travel. An official who followed the talks said the ban was "off the table" for now. He spoke on condition of anonymity to release details of the sensitive negotiations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Manning takes first steps as a free woman

WIKILEAKS

Soldier freed by presidential clemency from a 35-year term

Chelsea Manning posted this photo to social media with the caption: 'First steps of freedom!!' TWITTER.COM

Army Pvt. Chelsea Manning, spared by presidential clemency from the rest of a 35-year prison term for giving classified materials to anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks, stepped out of a military lockup Wednesday and into a future she said she was eager to define.

"I'm figuring things out right now — which is exciting, awkward, fun, and all new for me," Manning said by email hours after being released from confinement at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, having served seven years behind bars for one of the largest exposing of classified information in U.S. history.

"I am looking forward to so much! Whatever is ahead of me is far more important than the past," added Manning, 29.

Manning's immediate plans, including living arrangements, remained unclear. The Oklahoma native had previously tweeted that she planned to move to Maryland, where she has an aunt, but her attorneys have cited security concerns in refusing to make public specifics about her release or where she was headed. The Army is allowing her to live where she pleases — still on active duty but under a special, unpaid status.

Manning relished her newfound freedom, posting on social media photos of her lunch — "So, (I'm) already enjoying my first hot, greasy pizza," she declared of the slice of pepperoni — and her feet in sneakers, with the caption, "First steps of freedom!!"

Manning, who is transgender and was known as Bradley Manning before she transitioned in prison, was convicted in 2013 of 20 counts, including six Espionage Act violations, theft and computer fraud. She was acquitted of the most serious charge of aiding the enemy.

THE ASSOCIATE PRESS

Dubai firm hopes to harvest icebergs

A Dubai firm's dream of towing icebergs from the Antarctic to the Arabian Peninsula could face some titanic obstacles.

Where many see the crumbling polar ice caps as a distressing sign of global warming, the National Advisor Bureau Limited sees it as a source of profit, and a way of offsetting the effects of climate change in the increasingly sweltering Gulf.

The firm has drawn up plans to harvest icebergs in the southern Indian Ocean and tow them 9,200 kilometres away to the Gulf, where they could be melted down for fresh water and marketed as a tourist attraction.

"The icebergs are just floating in the Indian Ocean. They are up for grabs to whoever can take them," managing director Abdullah al-Shehi said in his Dubai office. He hopes to begin harvesting them by 2019. It is perhaps no surprise that the idea would originate in Dubai, which is already famous for its indoor ski slope, artificial islands and the world's tallest building. But the plan to harvest icebergs faces a wide array of legal, financial and logistical hurdles — and environmentalists are less than thrilled.

The firm would send ships down to Heard Island, an Australian nature reserve in the southern Indian Ocean, where they would steer between massive icebergs the size of cities in search of truck-sized chunks known as growlers.

Workers would then secure them to the boats with nets and embark on a yearlong cruise to the United Arab Emirates.

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Principal Investigator: Dr. Robert Nam

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SAFE SPACE PODCAST
New episode May 19 with Ishmael Daro, Elamin AbdelMahmoud and guests Amira Elghawaby and Shree Paradkar

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON JAGMEET SINGH, CULTURE AND QUEBEC

He doesn't need the province to take the party leadership. But the niqab episode of the 2015 election could cause worries that a leader whose religious identity is a distinguishing feature is a recipe for disaster.

A betting person might wager that Jagmeet Singh — unless he stumbles badly and quickly out of the gate — could soon be the candidate to beat in the battle for Thomas Mulcair's succession. With solid roots in the Ontario NDP — whose deputy leader he was until this week — and in multicultural Canada, Singh has the elements of a potential leadership juggernaut at his disposal.

The Sikh community is one of the most politically engaged in the country and Ontario offers the largest provincial pool of potential NDP supporters.

Singh has no federal experience but that did not prevent Alexa McDonough who had spent all her years in the Nova Scotia arena before moving on to Parliament Hill and Jack Layton who cut his teeth at Toronto City Hall from winning the leadership.

On a week when France has sworn in a 39-year-old president, it is hard to make a case that Singh, 38, is too young for the job of third party leader in the House of Commons.

He does not have much of a profile outside of Ontario and NDP circles. But then none of the four MPs who are already in the running is a national household name either. On that score, suffice it to say that there may have been more words written about Singh's leadership prospects before and since his entry in the NDP race than the sum of the characters expanded on all the other candidates.

As opposed to the Liberals and the Conservatives, the New Democrats do not weight their leadership votes on a riding-per-riding basis. Under the party's winner-take-all one-member-one-vote formula, it is easier to secure the leadership with little or no support from some regions, especially if one enjoys a lot of backing in Ontario and British Columbia. Those two provinces have tended to tower above the others on the NDP membership rolls.

This is a roundabout way to say that Singh would not need to win Quebec or even to do particularly well in that province to score a decisive leadership victory next fall. In the last election, the party was routed in Ontario and wiped off the map of Atlantic Canada. In the circumstances, more than a few New Democrats might rank recouping the lost ground in those regions above other considerations.

With two leaders from Quebec — Justin Trudeau and the Bloc Québécois' Martine Ouellet — and possibly a third if Maxime Bernier wins the Conservative vote, competition among native sons and daughters will be fierce in 2019. Whoever succeeds Mulcair will not have as large a footprint in Quebec. The party will have an uphill battle on its hands in the province under any leadership scenario.

Still, it took half-a-century for the NDP to establish a presence in Quebec. No one wants to see Jack Layton's parting gift to his party squandered.

All of which has many New Democrats — starting with the party's 16 Quebec MPs — quietly wondering how Quebec, given its strong pro-secular bent, would take to a turban-wearing Sikh NDP leader. It was not so long ago that the Parti Québécois was campaigning on a promise to impose a secular dress code on all public servants.

Based on the niqab episode of the 2015 election, there are those who would readily answer that going into the 2019 campaign in Quebec under a leader whose religious identity is a distinguishing feature could be a recipe for disaster.

But that may amount to selling Quebecers short. Yes, the NDP took a hit in Quebec over the niqab issue but it was the scores of lapsed Liberal supporters who returned home that really pulled the rug from under Mulcair. Trudeau almost tripled the party's vote — mostly at the expense of New Democrats. Quebec's secularism debate has so far been a family discussion that has for the most part involved politicians who do not actually belong to a visible religious minority.

Singh's French would put to shame some of the former Conservative ministers who have spent the past year calling on their party to overlook their glaring deficiencies in the other official language.

No one should presume that an NDP leader who can otherwise connect in French with Quebecers would automatically lose the party's audience in the province on grounds of religious diversity.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer.

The Trump train is about to crash. Jump off now.

Vinay Menon
Torstar News Service

There are many mysteries in the universe: The statues on Easter Island. The Unicorn Frappuccino. But the biggest mystery of all is how anyone with a working brain can still cheer for Donald Trump.

On Tuesday evening, as the words "obstruction of justice" and "impeachment" shot into the Washington air like firecrackers, Jeffrey Lord reprised his role as the president's chief toady on CNN to inform viewers: "We are once again in high-tech lynching mode."

There was a glint of forlorn defeat in his eyes, like a man who keeps trying to convince his adult children the tooth fairy is real. Lord decided to board the Make America Great Again Express a long time ago. Now that it has derailed, he's trapped inside the wreckage, blaming everyone except the conductor. And he's not alone.

At the midway point of Trump's worst week in office — and that's saying something — his travelling band of surrogates, liars, bootlickers, enablers, brown-nosers and excuse-makers are in quite a bind.

They can cling to fantasy or reality. Fantasy: Trump is a victim of anything other than gross incompetence. Reality: Trump is on the verge of implosion and they are destined to become collateral damage.

Instead of defending the indefensible, Lord might give some thought to escaping. What he can't do is expect things to get better. They are only going to get worse.

What more can Trump do to make this clear? Twist off the heads of live kittens on national television? Invade Canada?

This week we learned Trump handles highly sensitive classified information the way a grade-schooler treats a cooties secret. We learned he asked the FBI to stop investigating his inner circle.

We learned what we already knew: Trump is so unfit for public office, so incapable of not shooting himself in the foot while wearing his socks on his ears, the world would be better off if the Oval Office were occupied by a Talking Elmo glued atop a Roomba. There'd be much less danger and the floors would be clean.

It's one thing for Fox News, a longtime outpost for Republican talking points, to ignore, deflect or downplay the latest bombshells. Fox is the equivalent of North Korean state media. Any network that employs Lou Dobbs, Tucker Carlson and Sean Hannity — the axis of doofus — is not a network that is serious about reality.

But that still leaves a startling number of presumably decent people like Lord who have nothing to gain and everything to lose by continuing to shelter Trump from a crap storm of the president's making.

This week, Trump proved the Never Trumpers were always right. So the Trumpers Forever now have a choice: escape the mangled wreckage or perish inside.

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metro LIFE

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Vancouver's first Indigenous-focused fashion week to celebrate "cultural appreciation" for designers

Will Smith defends Netflix

CANNES

Palme d'Or jury is split on the merits of online films

Peter Howell
life@metronews.ca

Jury president Pedro Almodovar (left) with fellow jury members Jessica Chastain and Will Smith at the 70th international Cannes Film Festival Tuesday. AP PHOTO/ALASTAIR GRANT

The war of big vs. small movie screens at the Cannes Film Festival heated up Wednesday as Palme d'Or jury president Pedro Almodovar declared that prizes shouldn't be given to online-only films.

"I personally would not conceive not only the Palme d'Or but any other prize being given to a film and then not being able to see this film on the large screen," the veteran Spanish filmmaker told an international press audience on the festival's opening day.

Calling it "the debate of this year," Almodovar was clearly referring to the two Netflix films among the 19 competing for the Palme: Bong Joon-ho's sci-fi fantasy Okja, starring Tilda Swinton and Jake Gyllenhaal; and Noah Baumbach's The Meyerowitz Stories, a dysfunctional-family drama starring Dustin Hoffman, Emma Thompson, Adam Sandler and Ben Stiller.

Online giant Netflix has caused a furor in Cannes for refusing to commit to a traditional theatrical release in France of the two films prior to online distribution. Cannes has fought back by saying Netflix, which is in the Palme competition for the first time this year, won't be allowed into the 2018 festival unless it changes its policy.

Almodovar obviously sides with the festival, but his statement, read out in Spanish, English and French, was highly unusual given his leading role on the nine-member jury. The other jurors are Hollywood actors Will Smith and Jessica Chastain, German writer/director Maren Ade (Toni Erdmann); Chinese actress Fan Bingbing (X-Men: Days of Future Past); French actress/singer/filmmaker Agnès Jaoui (The Taste of Others); South Korean writer/director Park Chan-wook (Oldboy); Italian writer/director Paolo Sorrentino (The Great Beauty); and French-Lebanese composer Gabriel Yared (Xavier Dolan's It's Only the End of the World).

Normally, the jurors and their president go out of their way at the start of Cannes to declare their impartiality regarding the films they will be viewing and judging over the 12-day festival.

Almodovar obviously thinks the battle to preserve big-screen dominance is too important to ignore, even if it effectively suggest that Okja and The Meyerowitz Stories now have little chance of winning the Palme at festival's end on May 28, no matter how much the jury may like them.

He said he's willing to "acknowledge (and) celebrate the new technologies and the possibilities that they offer to us," but he'll stop short of giving them prizes if they result in films destined only to appear on TV and computer screens.

"I do acknowledge them, but (as long) as I'm alive, I'll be fighting for one thing that I'm afraid the new generation is not aware of: the capacity of hypnosis of the large screen for the viewer."

Almodovar's attack on Netflix caused some discomfort for actor Smith, sitting near him. His new film Bright, a fantasy cop thriller co-starring Noomi Rapace, is scheduled for a Netflix-only release in December.

Smith rose to the defence of Netflix, saying he uses the service at home and his family also enjoy regular visits to movie theatres.

"I have a 16-year-old and an 18-year-old and a 24-year-old at home. They go to the movies twice a week, and they watch Netflix. There's very little cross between going to the cinema and watching what they watch on Netflix."

Netflix allows Smith's children to "watch films they otherwise wouldn't have seen. It has broadened my children's global cinematic comprehension."

Smith was an unusual pick for the Cannes jury, given his career as one of the world's biggest stars, which normally lands him in blockbusters like Men in Black, Bad Boys and Suicide Squad rather than artier fare.

He joked about how he's excited about being on the Cannes jury, and he intends to watch closely and learn from the experience.

Smith admitted, though, to being shocked when his agent told him he'd have to watch three films per day for the better part of two weeks, with screenings beginning as early as 8:30 a.m. each day.

"I was probably 14 years old the last time I watched three movies in a day," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Alas, poor Elise has the real problem

THE SHOW: The Real Housewives of Toronto, Season 1, Episode 7
THE MOMENT: Elise!

"You look very business professional," personal assistant Elise assures Real Housewife Roxy, her flamboyant boss, as they enter a "business meeting" with Somen Mondal, a pal of Roxy's rich hubbie.

Roxy has an idea for an app to allow women to shop each other's closets. "Because I never want to wear something more than once and I imagine the general public is the same," she says breezily. She has "entrepreneurship in my blood" — she just doesn't know what that entails.

Mondal advises, "Step one, build a pitch deck." Roxy's face goes blank. "Are you getting this, Elise?" she asks. Elise scribbles in a notebook.

Mondal suggests a funding plan. "Did you get that down, Elise?" Roxy asks.

"Traction," Mondal says. "Traction, Elise," Roxy parrots, understanding nothing.

Dear Millennial Elise, with your calm gaze and your pen, this is my ode to you. This entire season had precisely one controversy: Joan got drunk, Kara gossiped about it. This just in: Canadians are polite.

But you, Elise, you are the one I wonder about. Do you have a BA from a worthy university mouldering in your bedside table drawer? Do you enjoy costuming your ostentatiously idle boss and then complimenting her, or was that "business professional" a secret slam?

I see you, Elise. You are seen.

Toronto's Real Housewives are too polite. CONTRIBUTED

Revealing all secrets of small-town life

BOOKS

Why Elizabeth Strout believes anything truly is possible

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada

A funny thing happened years after Elizabeth Strout's linked-story collection Olive Kitteridge won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize. Strout discovered a group of women in Greenwich, Connecticut, were meeting every Monday to "talk their Oliveness out" at the local Starbucks in honour of her misanthropic protagonist, an outspoken retired small-town teacher who compulsively alienates everyone around her.

"They were very Greenwich in the sense that they were well-off and had their pearls in their ears," says Strout. "They were not even remotely my idea of someone who would appreciate Olive."

As Olive Kitteridge was being adapted into a multiple Emmy Award–winning HBO miniseries starring Frances McDormand, Strout was busy crafting another complex character. In My Name is Lucy Barton, a successful author reunites with her estranged mother and recalls horrific memories of her lonely poverty-stricken childhood.

Lucy returns in Strout's new linked story collection, Anything is Possible, and although she only makes a brief physical appearance, her presence (and newly published memoir) still haunts many residents of the fictional Maine hometown.

Strout, who calls herself a "very messy worker," says her desk is always covered in pieces of paper, many of which became the genesis for Anything is Possible.

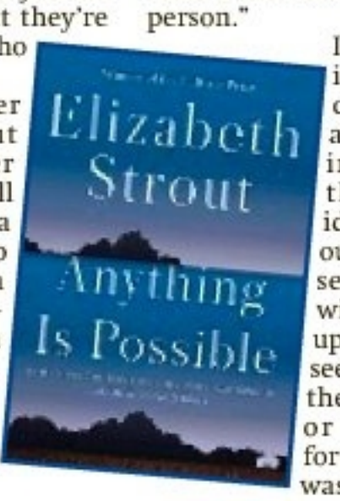
She sketched out most of the stories while still writing My Name is Lucy Barton, realizing "I had these nuggets of information of these people."

Small-town life through Strout's vision of humanity — she is guided by a sense of intuition about her characters — includes closeted gay husbands, a Vietnam vet with PTSD, a wife who participates in her rich husband's assaults on other women and a poignant yet painful mother-daughter reunion.

"I never judge my characters when I'm writing about them," Strout says. "That's the fun part of my job, to not have judgement at all and just let them do whatever it they're going to do and be who they are."

Elizabeth Strout's Lucy Barton returns in her new collection Anything Is Possible. CONTRIBUTED

Like many of her characters, Strout spent some of her childhood in a small Maine town, in a home connected to nearby relatives via a dirt road. Her parents didn't believe in frivolous entertainment like television, which meant Strout — who was a lawyer before turning to writing full-time — had to rely on her inner resources for amusement.



"I spent a great deal of time alone and there wasn't a lot of stimulation," she says. "I understood from a young age how to live in my head. I was also able to observe an awful lot and note a lot of details. I was always curious about what it felt like to be another person."

It's not as if Strout's characters are trapped in time, but they do reside outside of our cultural obsessions. They will never end up on Instagram seeking likes for their food pics, or modelling for selfies in bar washrooms. She writes passionately about those who are more concerned with just getting by in the world. "I'm just so interested in the most ordinary kind of person," Strout says. "Someone who is just living their lives. I'm so interested in the inner world — everybody has one."

Street speculates that her dedication to ordinary folk is perhaps why those turned-out Greenwich women with their fancy pearls created an Olivia Kitteridge fan club. "If I can write something emotionally truthful for a character then I think there's a chance that will emotionally resonate with readers," Strout says.

"Their lives are not like the lives of the people I'm writing about, but if there's something emotionally truthful enough they can engage with that person on the page or even recognize something about themselves they had forgotten.'

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A new beginning for newcomers

Financial program helps new Canadians build their future

For immigrants, foreign workers and international students new to Canada, one of the first priorities is getting on a firm financial footing.

Opening an account with a Canadian bank doesn't just address immediate needs — like building savings or establishing a credit rating — it also helps set long-term goals like buying a home or getting a business loan.

To help newcomers build a strong financial foundation in Canada, Scotiabank in 2008 launched its StartRight program. The goal of the program is "to help newcomers open the door to their new start in Canada," says Munsif Sheraly, Director of Multicultural Banking at Scotiabank. The program functions as a one-stop shop that helps newcomers with various aspects of their life in Canada. "From setting up your bank account and managing your money to investing for your future," says Sheraly, "Scotiabank offers the right solutions and advice."

"FROM SETTING UP YOUR BANK ACCOUNT AND MANAGING YOUR MONEY TO INVESTING FOR YOUR FUTURE, SCOTIABANK OFFERS THE RIGHT SOLUTIONS AND ADVICE."

– Munsif Sheraly

Because Scotiabank has partnerships with financial institutions around the world, StartRight lets new Canadians open an account even before they arrive in this country. Newcomers can open accounts online before arriving from 16 countries — including Chile, Columbia, India, the U.K. and more — and transfer money into that account so it's available when they arrive in Canada. Enrico, a StartRight participant, set up a Scotiabank account before he and his family left their native Philippines. "From there we could start building our credit rating," he says. "And when we got to Canada we had a credit card — absent a job, income or credit history — within a week's time."

While every immigrant success story is unique, there are a few common factors when it comes to feeling financially settled in a new country. Intangible benefits, such as being able to speak to an advisor in your own language, can go a long way toward making newcomers feel comfortable in their adopted home. And because the StartRight program has been actively working with immigrant, foreign worker and international student communities for almost a decade, its advisors have a lot of experience serving newcomers and their unique needs.

ISTOCK

Among the direct help StartRight offers: Newcomers who open an account through StartRight get $300 in banking benefits. The program also offers specialty products — such as the StartRight mortgage program and the StartRight auto finance program. And its advisors work with various settlement agencies and local community groups to further help newcomers settle in. The Scotiabank StartRight program is available at any Scotiabank branch in Canada or by visiting scotiabank.com/newtocanada.

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HOME
Your essential daily news

MEET THE CONDO

Luxury mid-rise coming to the Annex

CONTRIBUTED

Project overview

Tridel's Bianca condominiums is the first of its kind in the New Dupont corridor, a destination for arts, culture, food and entertainment. The midrise, designed by award-winning Teeple architects, features a wide range of suite sizes and layouts.

Housing amenities

Residents will enjoy a multi-function party room, an outdoor rooftop pool and terrace with cabanas, a fireplace and barbecue area, private dining room with catering kitchen, and a fully-equipped fitness centre with yoga studio.

Location and transit

The building is located in Toronto's popular Annex neighbourhood, conveniently located near the Dupont TTC subway platform and several surface transit routes. The area is highly walkable, transit and cyclist-friendly.

In the neighbourhood

Situated within steps of a variety of independently-owned restaurants, coffee shops, high-end home essentials and gourmet food purveyors, Bianca is also close to many large community parks and trails for walking, running or biking.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER/FOR METRO

DETAILS

What: Bianca
Builder: Tridel
Architect: Teeple Architects
Interior: II by IV Design
Location: Dupont Street west of Spadina in the Annex
Building: Nine-storey building with 216 units
Models: From one bedrooms to sky penthouses
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"This team is a lot of fun to be around this year": GM Danny Ainge, whose Celtics won the NBA lottery Tuesday on the eve of the NBA East finals

Gisele: Tom had head injury in '16

NFL

Pats' QB's wife worries about long-term health of husband

Tom Brady played through a concussion last year on his way to a fifth Super Bowl title, according to his wife, supermodel Gisele Bundchen. The injury, which was not reported by the team, left her worried about how long he should continue to play football.

Asked if she wanted the New England Patriots quarterback to retire, Bundchen expressed concern "as a wife" in an interview on CBS This Morning that aired Wednesday.

"He had a concussion last year. He has concussions pretty much every ..." she said, before cutting herself off. "I mean, we don't talk about it. But he does have concussions. I don't really think it's a healthy thing for anybody to go through."

Brady sat out the first four games of the season as punishment for his role in the "Deflategate" scandal and missed practice late in the season for leg, thigh and ankle injuries.

But he was not listed on the league-required injury reports for a concussion or head injury at any point during in the 2016 season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

That kind of aggression all the time, that cannot be healthy for you. I'm planning on him being healthy and do a lot of fun things when we're like 100, I hope.
Gisele Bundchen

GETTY IMAGES

NBA PLAYOFFS

Warriors know title rings trump records

The Golden State Warriors' rare unbeaten start this post-season doesn't necessarily mean they're on their way to a title.

Golden State is just the fifth NBA team to win its first 10 playoff games in a given postseason. Only two of the four teams that previously achieved the feat went on to win the title.

The Warriors aren't getting caught up in talk about where they might rank in history if they continue this run. They say they're focusing on continuing to get better and the next game against the San Antonio Spurs in the Western Conference finals.

Kevin Durant
GETTY IMAGES

"We feel like we like our chances against anybody, no matter (who) is on the court," Warriors forward Kevin Durant said Tuesday night after a 136-100 victory over the Spurs, who played without injured all-star Kawhi Leonard. "That's the confidence we have. But we've got to be ready Game 3."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONCUSSIONS

Ex-players pledge brains to CTE research

Two more retired football stars have pledged their brains to research.

Two-time Super Bowl champion Leonard Marshall and three-time Pro Bowl selection Matt Hasselbeck say they will donate their brains to the Concussion Legacy Foundation for research into chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

The announcements were made Wednesday as part of the second annual Brain Trust conference, which is hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Marshall says he already has short-term memory loss and erratic behaviour. The former Giants defensive lineman is 55. Hasselbeck's father, Don, was a teammate of Marshall's and pledged his brain to the foundation in 2010. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Raonic reaches 3rd round with win over Haas in Rome

Canada's Milos Raonic advanced to the third round of the Italian Open with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Germany's Tommy Haas on Wednesday.

Raonic, from Thornhill, Ont., used his dominant serve to dispatch Haas in a little over an hour. Raonic lost only 13 service points while firing 10 aces past the 39-year-old veteran and saving both break points he faced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kershaw sticks it to Giants

Clayton Kershaw took a share of the major league lead with his seventh win and earned career victory No. 20 against the rival Giants, helping the Los Angeles Dodgers avoid a sweep by beating San Francisco 6-1 on Wednesday.

Kershaw (7-2) struck out five in seven shutout innings and retired the first 10 batters he faced before Justin Ruggiano's fourth-inning single. The left-hander moved into a tie for most wins with Houston's Dallas Keuchel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Wolfpack's Jonathan Pownall breaks past Oxford's Kane Riley to score during Toronto's 62-12 win in the home opener at Lamport Stadium on May 6. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Problems of pond crossing

RUGBY

Wolfpack's English guests in uncharted travel waters

Taking on rugby league's first transatlantic team involves more than boarding a plane to Toronto.

Barrow Raiders coach Paul Crarey has spent this week monitoring medical reports and visa applications to see which of his players are healthy enough — and legally approved — for the 5,500-kilometre trip to play the Wolfpack on Saturday in a top-of-the-table showdown.

"I don't know what sort of team we can bring over now," Crarey said wearily of his 18-man travelling squad.

Then there's the issue of their day jobs. In the semi-pro world of the Kingstone Press League 1, rugby is not a full-time job unless you play for the Wolfpack.

Crarey, for one, is a self-employed roofing contractor so will be losing money coming to Canada.

When it comes to rugby, some of his players only get paid if they play. And the pay is less for a loss — 50 pounds ($88) a game less taxes, which works out to about 30 pounds ($53).

A free trip to Canada helps.

"It's a big ask for these fellows as part-time players to do it," said Crarey. "But it's an experience for them and everybody's wanting to get over and sample more Canada than the game, I think."

"It's an experience for our players whatever side we bring over," he added.

The logistics, new to everyone, have put something of a damper for Crarey on the eagerly awaited showdown between the two 7-0-0 teams. Toronto has outscored its opposition 412-71 in league play while Barrow has a 352-88 edge.

The Wolfpack have won nine of 10 matches, with the lone blemish a 29-22 loss to Super League's Salford in the fifth round of the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup.

The Raiders had won 13 straight prior to losing Sunday in sixth round of cup play. The last third-tier team in the knockout competition, Barrow exited after a 72-10 thumping by the Leeds Rhinos, who stand fourth in the Super League — two divisions and 22 places above the Raiders.

The Wolfpack are paying for visiting teams' flights and housing in Toronto. Oxford RLFC, the first visiting team, was originally housed in residences at York University but was moved after complaints.

"We'll see what that's like when we get there," said Crarey.

He said Oxford coach Tim Rumford told him the York accommodation on offer "wasn't suitable for a professional rugby team."

Wolfpack CEO Eric Perez said the York rooms have since been upgraded.

Oxford was moved to the George Brown College residence — formerly the Pan Am Games athletes village in the Canary District — where the Wolfpack stay when in town. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **Lads who had trouble in the past are struggling to get their visas.**
>
> Barrow Raiders coach Paul Crarey said he and his players, on the eve of a 5 a.m. departure Thursday, were still sorting out travel issues.

IN BRIEF

Huddersfield into world's richest single soccer match

Huddersfield is one victory away from sealing a place in England's top division for the first time in 45 years after advancing to the second-tier League Championship playoff final on Wednesday.

The team managed by German-born American coach David Wagner beat Sheffield Wednesday 4-3 in a penalty shootout after the two-legged semifinal match finished 1-1 on the night, following a goalless draw on Sunday.

Huddersfield will play Reading in the playoff final at Wembley Stadium on May 29 for what is the richest single game in soccer, potentially worth about 200 million pounds ($260 million US) in future earnings to the winning side that enters the Premier League. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guay, Osborne-Paridis lead 2017-18 alpine team

World champion Erik Guay and bronze medallist Manny Osborne-Paradis are the headliners of Canada's alpine ski team for next season.

Alpine Canada announced its World Cup alpine and ski cross teams for 2017-18 as well as its developmental squads Wednesday in Calgary. The Olympic ski team will be named in January. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fraile's strength on display at Stage 11 of Giro d'Italia

Spanish rider Omar Fraile won the 11th stage of the Giro d'Italia after being on the attack for most of Wednesday, and Tom Dumoulin kept the overall leader's pink jersey.

Amid a group of breakaway riders, Fraile outsprinted ex-world champion Rui Costa and Pierre Rolland to take his first win of the three-week race. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Hearty Panzanella Salad

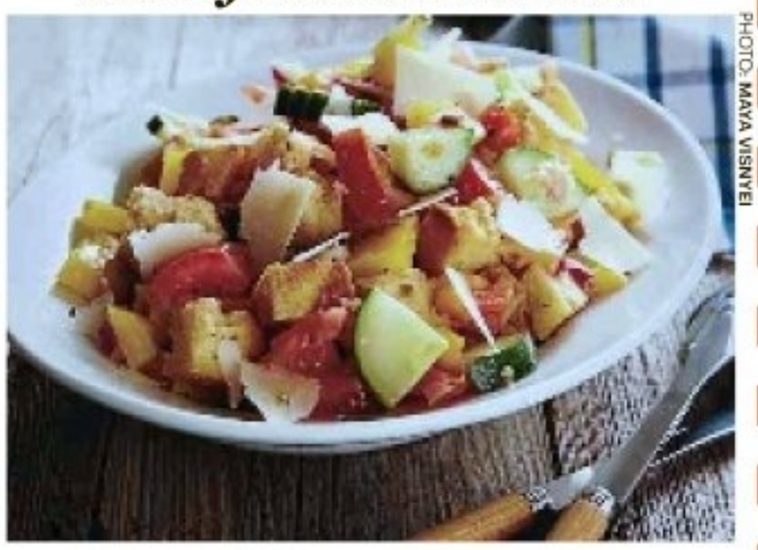

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This hearty salad is delicious on its own, but feel free to make it into a more complete meal by topping it with chopped rotisserie chicken.

Ready in 15 minutes
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 5 minutes

Ingredients
- 4 cups of slightly stale crusty bread, like baguette
- 4 tomatoes roughly chopped
- 1 cucumber peeled and roughly chopped
- 1 yellow pepper
- 1/2 red onion finely sliced or chopped
- 1/2 cup pitted black olives
- 1/2 cup or so of shaved parmesan
- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 red wine vinegar
1/2 Tbsp dijon mustard
- salt and pepper to taste

Directions

1. Toss the first seven ingredients in your salad bowl first so that everything is evenly distributed.

2. Whisk together the last four ingredients in a small bowl until they are well combine.

3. There will be more dressing than you need, but you'll need more than you'd use for a regular salad as the bread will drink it up. Keep adding the dressing and tossing and tasting. You want to the bread to be moist and soften but not drowned by the dressing.

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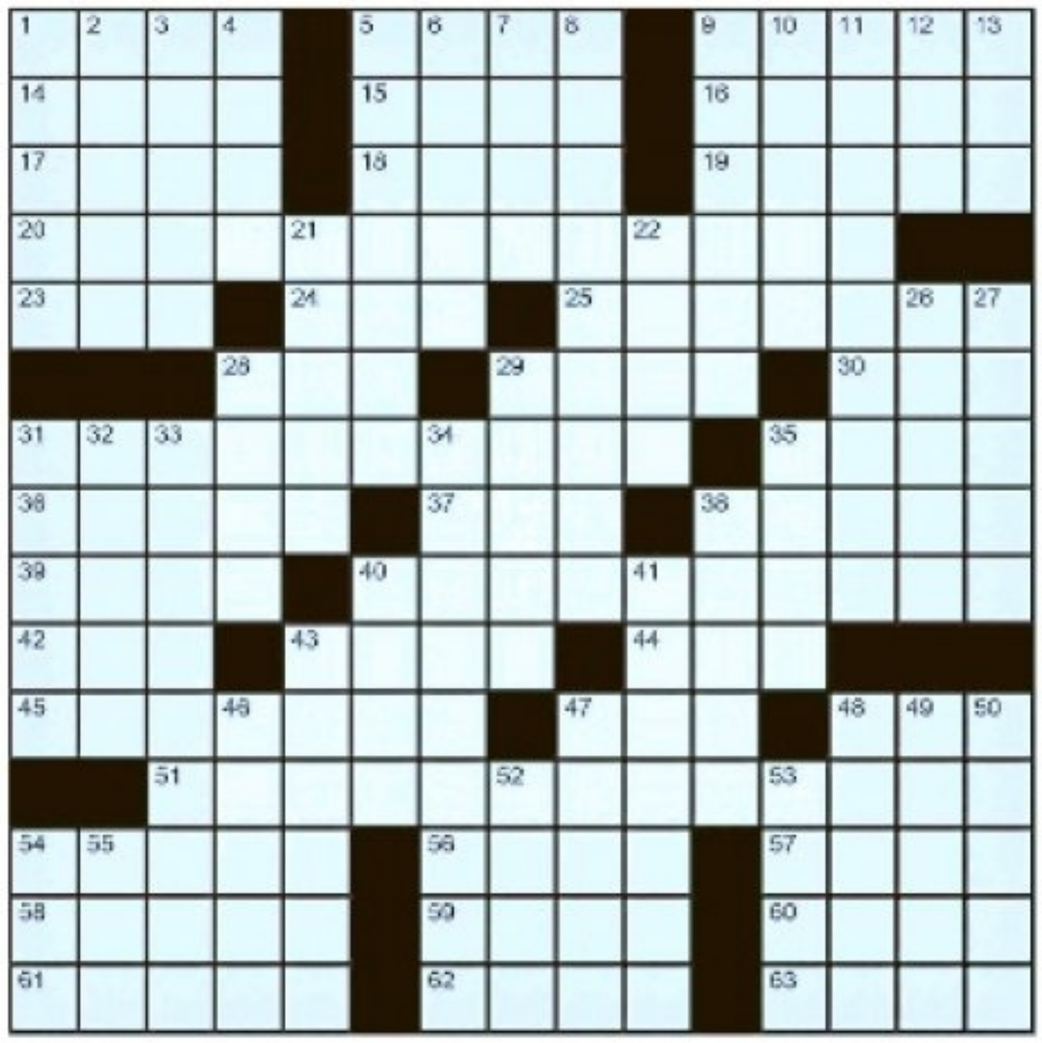
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Bird's crop
5. Shania Twain trophy, e.g.
9. Leg bone
14. Toy building block
15. Repenter
16. Stop!, in sailing
17. Finito
18. Env. info
19. Ceremonies
20. Ontario: __ Corners (Uniquely-named hamlet in Wilmot Township which is in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo)
23. Arrange
24. The Honourable Dr. Vivienne __, retired Canadian Senator
25. Garden chore
28. Mr. Wheaton
29. Love letter's envelope letters
30. "Golly."
31. Container for Canadian dairy brand
Sealtest: 2 wds.
35. ___ upswing
36. Mr. Sharif's
37. War on Poverty agcy.
38. Shipping container
39. "It's my turn.": 2 wds.
40. Where to find deals on pre-owned vehicles: 2 wds.
42. Cleaning cloth
43. Baking meas.
44. Bean and Cool J
45. One sticking to the rules
47. Movies composer Francis
48. Air travel overseer [acronym]
51. They cascade across the way in New York from Canada at Niagara: 2 wds.
54. "Like a Rolling Stone" ___ Dylan
56. Phyllis Diller's husband's name from her stand-up act
57. See
58. Actor Nick
59. Lake, in Italy
60. Horse part
61. Once ___ (Every seven days)
62. Vigour [abbr.]
63. Goulash

DOWN
1. Horseshoes-on-cobblestones noises
2. Variety show
3. Insurance __
4. Employment
5. Crayons creator
6. Jim of Blue Rodeo
7. Beatles' "Love ___ ___"
8. Vulcan County village in Alberta that's south-east of Calgary
9. Herb __ (TV character who wore loud suits)
10. Foliaged, as stone walls
11. Gotham City Police Department searchlight to summon The Dark Knight
12. 'Expert' suffix
13. Cadillac ___ Sedan
21. Sagas
22. Mr. Cain
26. "Swell!"
27. Jean __ (The Balcony dramatist)
28. Cincinnati radio station for #9-Down
29. Heighty, as a hill
31. Ms. Shearer of "The Red Shoes" (1948)
32. Fuming one's statement: 2 wds.
33. Funny
34. Complained-about Canadian-manufactured infantry firearm of WWI: 2 wds.
35. Bruins legend Bobby's
38. San Diego's li'l state
40. Taxi alternative service
41. Loud noisiness, States-style
43. "Jeopardy!" host Alex
46. Theatrically overact
47. Actress, Jessica __
48. Parade route display
49. Solo
50. Awry
52. James of "Misery" (1990)
53. Donations
54. Passed in 1867, it made Canada [acronym]
55. "Ouch!"

✷ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Be prepared to act on an unexpected opportunity in publishing, the media, medicine, the law or anything to do with training and higher education. You will have to act quickly.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You might see new and innovative ways to approach an inheritance or shared property. Be open. The rigid tree is the first to snap in a storm.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Difficulties in partnerships and close friendships suddenly might reveal a solution or a way to feel more free. Whatever presents itself will have a brief window of opportunity.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
New ideas that are imaginative and original might help you at work. Similarly, new ideas also might give you a boost to your health. Keep an open mind (but not so open that everything falls out).

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
A new approach to working with children might arise now. Whatever happens will be a welcome change.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You might see new ways to make improvements where you live. You might even decide to move to a new place. It's possible that family news will surprise you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A surprise opportunity to change jobs or residences might fall in your lap. If so, be ready to act quickly, because the window of opportunity is brief.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You might see improved and innovative ideas about how to earn money. You might improve your current job or get a better job — who knows?

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You are pumped with enthusiasm because you see a way to make a breakthrough in a new area that you are exploring. Something definitely will expand your world, and it's exciting!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
After giving up so much for others, you are starting to see a light at the end of the tunnel. Something ahead looks promising!

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
New friends and contacts with groups and organizations might change your world. You will expand it in a way that makes you feel more in touch with how things are done.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Surprise opportunities that can help you in your career are now at hand. Don't hesitate to take them. (You might not get a second chance.)

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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1	9	6	8	2	5	7	4	3
9	2	7	5	1	6	4	3	8
6	3	1	2	4	8	5	7	9
5	4	8	7	3	9	1	2	6

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